

SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR GATHERING, INDEXING, AND SUPPLYING PUBLICLY AVAILABLE DATA CHARTS

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A system, method and search engine for searching images for data contained therein. Training images are provided and image attributes are extracted from the training images. Attributes extracted from training images include image features characteristic of a particular numerically generated image type, such as horizontal lines, vertical lines, percentage white area, circular arcs and text. Then, the training images are classified according to extracted attributes and a particular classifier is selected for each group of training images. Classifiers can include classification trees, discriminant functions, regression trees, support vector machines, neural nets and hidden Markov models. Available images are collected from remotely connected computers, e.g., over the Internet. Collected images are indexed and provided for interrogation by users. As a user enters queries, indexed images are identified and returned to the user. The user may provide additional data as supplemental data to the extracted image data. A chart, representative of the supplemented data, may be generated and provided to the user in response to a particular query.